

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 07319 130755Z
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 SS-15 NSC-05
L-03 /053 W
----- 106578 /20
R 130644Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 769

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 7319

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, RO
SUBJ: VICAIR: PAN AM PROTEST OVER TURNING BACK OF NOVEMBER 29
FLIGHT

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED FOLLOWING LETTER FROM LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE
OF PAN AM REQUESTING US TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION WITH ROMANIAN
GOVERNMENT ON INCIDENT WHICH OCCURED AS RESULT OF AIRPORT
CLOSURE FOR BREZHNEV'S DEPARTURE.

QTE THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT PAN AMERICAN FLIGHT 66
EN ROUTE FROM BUDAPEST TO BUCHAREST ON NOVEMBER 26 WAS TURNED
BACK 30 MILES FROM TGJ AT 1200 GMT BY ROMANIAN AIR TRAFFIC
CONTROL.

ON NOVEMBER 25 WE WERE ADVISED BY NOTAM THAT OTOPENI
AIRPORT IN BUCHAREST WOULD BE CLOSED BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 1220
AND 1530 GMT ON THE FOLLOWING DAY. BECAUSE OF AIRCRAFT AND
CREW SCHEDULE PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS, WE DECIDED TO ALTER OUR
SCHEDULE (NORMAL ARRIVAL BUCHAREST 1330 GMT) IN ORDER TO ARRIVE
IN BUCHAREST PRIOR TO THE 1220 DEADLINE.

OUR FLIGHT PLAN WAS FILED THROUGH THE ATC CHANNELS
IN BUDAPEST, ACCEPTED, AND THE AIRCRAFT DEPARTED FOR BUCHAREST,
FLEW THE PLANNED ROUTE AND ALTITUDE UNTIL TURNED BACK. SHOULD
THE FLIGHT HAVE BEEN ALLOWED TO PROCEED, CALCULATING TIME AND
DISTANCE, WE BELIEVE THAT THE AIRCRAFT WOULD HAVE ARRIVED IN
BUCHAREST PRIOR TO CLOSURE OF THE AIRPORT.

IN ADDITION TO THE ECONOMIC IMPACT THE ROMANIAN ATC ACTION
HAS HAD ON OUR COMPANY WE CONSIDER EVENRJORE SERIOUS THE TOTAL
DISREGARD FOR INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT RULES AND HEREBY REQUEST THE
EMBASSY TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON OUR BEHALF AND REQUEST A
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FULL EXPLANATION FROM THE ROMANIAN AERONAUTICAL AUTHORITIES. UNQTE

2. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED
WHETHER DEPARTMENT DESIRES US TO MAKE DEMARCHE ON THIS INCIDENT
AND, IF SO, WHAT KIND OF APPROACH WE SHOULD MAKE. WE UNDERSTAND
THAT PAN AM HEADQUARTERS IN NEW YORK WAS INFORMED IMMEDIATELY
OF INCIDENT AND WERE REPORTEDLY EXTREMELY EXERCISED.
BARNES

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: LANDING RIGHTS, AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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From: BUCHAREST
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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